



The University of Western Ontario
HISTORY 3427E (DRAFT SYLLABUS)

The Holocaust

Fall/Winter 2018-19

Mondays: 6:30-9:30pm, SSC 3014

Instructor: Dr. Karen Priestman

Office Hours: Mondays, 2:30-5:30

Department of History, Office: Lawson Hall 2233

Email: kpriest2@uwo.ca

Course Description:

This course explores the evolution of the "Final Solution of the Jewish Question" in the broader context of German and Jewish history and anti-Semitic ideologies. The Holocaust is analyzed from the perspective of the perpetrators, victims and bystanders. The ultimate goal is to enable students to understand how and why the Holocaust happened.

Prerequisite(s):

1.0 History course at the 2200 level or above.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. The decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Antirequisite(s):

None.

Course Syllabus:

Course Objectives:

- Students' understanding of the Holocaust will be broadened and placed in its historical context.
- Students will become aware of the complex political and moral issues arising from a study of the Holocaust.
- Students' analytical and writing skills through significant engagement with primary and secondary sources.
- Students' skills of oral expression through class discussions.

Course Materials:

Required Books:

Main Textbooks:

- Doris Bergen, *War and Genocide: A Concise History of the Holocaust*. (Rowman and Littlefield, 2009).

Required Supplemental:

- Christopher Browning, *Ordinary Men: Reserve Police Battalion 101 and the Final Solution in Poland*. (Harper Collins, 2007).
- Other readings available on Owl.

Optional Books:

- Yehuda Bauer, *Rethinking the Holocaust*. (Yale, 2000).
- Mary Lynn Rampolla, *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*. (6th ed., Bedford/St. Martin's 2010).

NOTE: It is perfectly acceptable to buy a used version of any or all of these books. Abebooks.com is an excellent source for cheap history books. Amazon.ca is also always reliable, but pricier.

Methods of Evaluation:

Grade Breakdown:

Participation:		20%
Proposal and Bibliography:		5%
Summary Paper (Browning):		15%
Mid-term exam:	December exam period	15%
Photography Workshops (2.5% each):		5%
Research Essay:		25%
Final exam:	April exam period	15%

Assignments

Participation:

Participation in tutorial is a key component of the student's final mark. In order to participate effectively students must complete the readings for each tutorial. Simple attendance does not ensure a passing participation grade. In assigning a participation mark, I evaluate quality, rather than quantity. It is not necessarily the volume of remarks made that earns a high mark, but whether your comments and questions have stimulated discussion and led to a deeper understanding of the material and subject at hand. Like any other assignment, an 'A' in tutorial is earned through consistent outstanding performance. *Simply attending tutorial without participating will not result in a passing grade.* Participation in tutorial discussions is meant to enhance your ability to communicate orally. This requires you to become comfortable speaking in public as well as formulate an argument and articulate it convincingly.

Proposal and Bibliography: (DUE:)

Students are required to submit a 500-word proposal outlining your chosen essay topic, a working thesis, and possible arguments to support that thesis. It is understood that this thesis is likely to change as you complete more research and come to better understand your topic. This proposal must be accompanied by a bibliography listing at least eight (8) sources [2-3 articles count as one (1) source]. This assignment is meant to make you choose a topic early and find sources for that topic. The earlier you begin thinking about your paper in a concrete way, the more likely it is that you will produce a paper you are proud of and will learn something from.

Summary Paper: (DUE:)

Students are required to read Christopher Browning's *Ordinary Men: Reserve Police Battalion 101 and the Final Solution in Poland* in its entirety. To reflect the high demand this places upon the student, the *Ordinary Men* tutorial (Discussion #4) will carry twice the weight of a regular tutorial. In addition, students are required to write a summary paper of no more than ten pages double-spaced on *Ordinary Men*. Most of the paper should be devoted to identifying and summarizing Browning's argument. A smaller portion of the paper should be devoted to articulating what you think is significant about this book and its argument. What contribution does this book make to Holocaust history as a whole?

****Please Note: Late papers will be assessed a 10% penalty on the first day.**** Thereafter, the late penalty will be assessed as usual (2% per calendar day). This is because we will be having a discussion on the book on November 25th, so everyone must have the book read by then.

Book Review: (DUE:)

Students will write a scholarly book review. The book should be chosen from the bibliography for the student's research essay. It must be 8-10 pages long and must consult at least two professional reviews of at least one page each. These professional reviews will be photocopied and submitted to the instructor with the book review.

Research Essay: (DUE:)

Students are required to submit a 12 page (double spaced) research essay on a topic of their choosing pertaining to the Holocaust. This essay should utilize at least eight (8) monograph-length secondary sources (2-3 articles count as one source). Primary sources are not required, but are not prohibited either. For ideas on possible topics, students should begin by perusing the lecture titles in this syllabus and looking through

the table of contents of your textbooks. If you are having difficulty choosing a topic, formulating a research question, or are concerned about the suitability of your topic, please come and see me. Research essays should include a title page and bibliography. *You must also attach your marked proposal and bibliography to your essay.*

Students are required to submit their research essays to Turnitin.com (the link is under 'Assignments' on Owl).

Late Penalties:

Unless otherwise noted, all late assignments will be penalized **2% per calendar day** (this includes weekends).

Other Matters:

Students must consult with the instructor concerning absences from tutorial and late assignments worth less than 10% of the final mark.

No electronic devices are allowed during midterms or final exams.

Policy on Accommodation for Illness

(http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf).

Course Schedule and Readings: TBA

Additional Statements

Academic Offences:

Scholastic Offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitute a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Accessibility Options:

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website:

www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html

Medical Issues

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Please go to:

https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf

to read about the University's policy on medical accommodation. In the event of illness, you should contact Academic Counselling as soon as possible. The Academic Counsellors will determine, in consultation with the student, whether or not accommodation should be requested. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once the instructor has made a decision about whether to grant an accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for tests, assignments, and exams.

Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation: http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of Publication and page number. Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writer's ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source; these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction, your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases, in their suspension from the University.

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Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following web site:

www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Support Services

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western, http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Use of Electronic Devices

Electronic devices may be used for classwork only. No electronic devices will be permitted during tests and exams.

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact, Heidi Van Galen, Administrative Officer, Department of History, 519-661-2111 x84963 or e-mail vangalen@uwo.ca.